

PORTKILL

DRAWER 11A

TOWNS - LINCOLN INTEREST

71.2009.885 05108



# Indiana

## Cities & Towns

### Gentryville

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



HISTORY  
OF THE  
FORTY-SECOND INDIANA  
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

---

*Compiled and Written at the Request of*  
W. M. COCKRUM,  
*Late Lieutenant-Colonel 42d Indiana Regiment.*

BY S. F. HORRALL,  
*Late Captain of Company G, 42d Indiana Regiment.*

---

PUBLISHED FOR THE AUTHOR.  
1892.

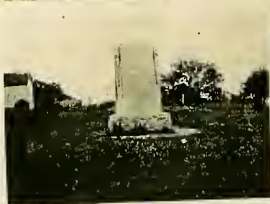
**ALLEN GENTRY**

Was born in Spencer county, Ind., March 3, 1842, and entered the United States service with the organization of the 42d Regt. Indiana Vol. Infy. at the age of nineteen years as corporal of Company H of the regiment, and color bearer for the regiment. From corporal he was promoted in the regular line till he reached the rank of lieutenant, in which he was mustered out with the regiment. He held a commission as an officer before he was twenty years old, being the youngest officer in the regiment. He is a prosperous farmer now, with a residence near Rockport, Ind., enjoying the confidence and respect of all.



LIEUT. ALLEN GENTRY.





SNAPSHOTS OF GENTRYVILLE

Main Street  
Site of Lincoln home

Little Pigeon Church  
Grave of Lincoln's sister

Gentryville Ind.

Mr Harry O Gorman

Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 33

Indianapolis Ind

Dear Mr Gorman

as I have heard nothing

from you since May 27<sup>th</sup>.

am writing you regarding my Land

I had a Letter in June from Mr

Brown but nothing since that time.

Now Mr Gorman I have a proposition

to make you; if you can make the deal

for me at less price than they

gave the Harmons - adjoining Land of

mine, which was something \$30 per

acre. I will give you an option

on my acreage 337 acres of \$20<sup>00</sup>

per acre and give you fifteen

Hundred dollars to make the deal.

if done within a reasonable time

as would be pleased to have deal

closed before the Deeds take charge if

they do - you know I own the place

the Lincoln's Land when they first

came here from Ky and the

Site where Abe Lincoln went to


School

would be pleased to hear from you  
by return mail as to whether  
you will take up some with  
Mr. Brown or shall I write  
him and if you think advisable  
to come down here let me  
know what day you will be  
here that I may be at home  
Thanking you very much  
for your kindness in the past

Very Respectfully  
Eli L. Grigsby

Eli L. Grigsby  
Spencer Co.  
Centryville Ind.



	Grigsby Land 40 acres			
Grigsby Land 40 acres	Grigsby 40 acres School House site where Lincoln went School to Hans school			
Park Land	Grigsby 40 Pole House site where Lincolns live when they came from Kentucky	Grigsby 40 acres		
Park Land	Park Land 40	Hevron	Grigsby 40 acres	
Park Land Lake Under Constructio n	Park Land 40 Old Pigeon church  Hans 	Hevron	Grigsby 60	GRIGSBY 37 acres
Park Land	Hevron's Land 80 acres	Hevron		
Park Land	Nancy Hanks Lincoln Park Proper	Park Land		

Jan. 1933

Gentryville, Indiana,  
January 31, 1933,

Mr. Harry O. Garman,  
Indianapolis, Indiana,  
Dear Mr. Garman:

Replying to your favor of 16th, after giving your letter due consideration I do not feel that an abstract at this time is necessary. I will furnish an abstract at the proper time, which of course must show clear title of same, There is a school fund of Twenty four hundred dollars on same, renewed last year for 5 years. I had acreage abstracted some years ago, but have same misplaced, and it was O. K. to that time, and there is nothing against it since. It cost to have same made and I do not care to pay cost., unless I am assured of sale, which I will furnish at proper time and as I said I will make you rough sketch showing location of Pole House where the Lincolns lived and also where Abraham attended school, and I will also send you tax receipt showing sections and numbers of same. I do not feel at this time of giving option on same for longertime than six months, for which you will receive \$1500.00 as commission on sale by you of same, at price named. in previous letter; or I will give you option of one year on same, provided your option did not prohibit me from selling to some one else.

Since the extension of the park to adjoining my land and Pole House site where the Lincolns lived and Abraham went to school and building of the lake, I have some fine prospects of selling, and of course I want to sell as soon as I can.

I would be glad to hear from you at an early date if or if not satisfactory. Yes, I realize times; money hard to get.

Yours Respectfully,

*Ed L Grigsky*



Gentryville, Indiana,  
February 6, 1933,

Mr. Harry O. Garman,  
Indianapolis, Indiana,  
Dear Mr. Garman,

Replying to your letter of the 3rd inst.,  
am sending deed description asked for.  
Make the option for six months and if not sold in that time  
will renew option.

<sup>5</sup> "The Northeast quarter of the Northeast quarter  
of section Eighteen (18) in township five (5) south and range  
~~six~~ west; the east half of the southeast quarter of section  
seven (7); the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of <sup>east</sup>  
section seven (7); the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter  
of section seven (7); the west half of the northeast quarter  
of the northwest quarter of section eight (8); the northwest  
quarter of the northwest quarter of section seven (7); and the  
southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section seven  
(7); all but the first described tract being in township five  
(5) south and range five (5) west. Part of the Northeast quarter  
of the Northeast quarter of section two lve (12), township  
five (5), range six (6); Containing three hundred and thirty  
seven (337) acres.

Respectfully Yours,

*E. L. Grigsby*

*O S*  
The 37 acres is  
in Jackson Township Young.  
The 300 acres  
*E L G*

*description  
is wrong*

Gentryville, Indiana,  
February 13, 1933,

Mr. Harry O. Garman,  
Indianapolis, Indiana,  
Dear Mr. Garman,

Replying to your letter of 10th, inclosing option, a part of this suits alright and part of it does not. In the first place, as to terms, you say you would pay three thousand dollars (\$3000) in cash. That would be alright if I get the three thousand; and you to have your commission = fifteen hundred, (\$1500), first notes due.

You have in last clause, first page, by Harry O. Garman, within 365 days from the date of expiration of this option. That would give you two years instead of one. I cannot do that. Then, the last page does not suit. I have crossed out the objectionable part, and then -I want in the option a clause that if state condemns that this option is null and void.

With the corrections, and the clause added, if you desire, you may send me option for signature.

Respectfully Yours,

*Eli L. Grigsby*



Gentryville Ind  
Feb 17 1833

Mr Harry O Garman  
Indianapolis Ind

Dear Mr Garman

replying to your Letter of 15th

you have failed to make two important  
changes in option  
to wit

The first is that the first three thousand dollars  
shall be paid to me and the Commission  
of fifteen hundred shall be paid from  
the first two notes first note one thousand  
and second note five hundred

and The Clause asked for should the  
State condemn them in that event this  
option is null and void

~~in other words~~

the last page in event you purchase

the above clause would hold good

Now Mr Garman

if you care to send the right  
kind of an option we will sign but  
but these catches won't go you have had  
a lot of stuff in these options that is  
unnecessary

Very Respectfully  
Eli L. Greysky

For, and in consideration, of the sum of one dollar, (1.00), receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby agrees to, and does, give to Harry O. Garman, of Indianapolis, Indiana, or his assigns, heirs, and personal representatives, for a term of three hundred and sixty five days from this date of said option, the exclusive right to purchase, or to sell or to find a purchaser for the property known as the Eli and Carrie Grigsby property, same being more fully described:

The northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section eighteen (18), township five (5), range five (5), forty (40) acres; the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section seven (7), township five (5), range five (5), forty (40) acres; the north half of the southeast quarter of section seven (7), township five (5), range five (5), eighty (80) acres; the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section seven (7), township five (5), range five (5), forty (40) acres; the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section eight (8), township five (5), range five (5), forty (40) acres; the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section seven (7), township five (5), range five (5), forty (40) acres; the west half of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section seven (7), township five (5), range five (5), twenty (20) acres; part of the northeast quarter of section twelve (12), township five (5), range six (6), thirty seven (37) acres; containing three hundred and thirty seven (337) acres more or less, near the city of Lincoln City, Spencer county, Indiana, for the sum of nine thousand dollars, upon the following terms and conditions, to wit = Three thousand (\$3000) dollars, to be paid in cash upon the delivery of a good and sufficient general warrantee deed, signed by any and all persons having an interest in same; and the remainder of the purchase price to be paid as follows: One thousand dollars (\$1000) annually, for which said deferred payments negotiable notes shall be given bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semi annually, with the usual <sup>Commercial</sup> concurrent clauses, to be secured by first mortgage on the above described real estate.

In event this option is exercised the undersigned agrees to furnish the purchaser an abstract of title to said real estate, certified to date, as quickly as same can be prepared, showing a good and marchantable title in fee simple in the undersigned, and that said real estate is clear of liens and encumbrances, except taxes, for the year 1932.

In the event Harry O. Garman procures a purchaser for said real estate, on the above terms, or the real estate herein above described, is sold by the undersigned to any person introduced to said property by Harry O. Garman within three hundred and sixty five days from the



date of this option, then, the undersigned agrees to pay to said Harry O. Garman the sum of fifteen hundred (\$1500) dollars for his services, as follows = The first note of one thousand and five hundred dollars of second note in the event said Harry O. Garman elects to exercise this option by purchasing said property for the price named. Then, in that event, the undersigned agrees to pay Harry O. Garman the same as in the above paragraph. And the undersigned will <sup>execute</sup> ~~enter~~ and deliver to Harry O. Garman, or to any one whom he shall designate, a good and sufficient warrantee deed conveying said real estate, upon payment of the above purchase price according to above terms.

The undersigned further agrees to quote no price to any person or persons during the life of this option, but will refer all inquiries to Harry O. Garman, the holder of this option, and will assist in every way possible to further a deal for said real estate.

In case the state of Indiana condemns then this option is null and void.

In consideration of the covenants herein, Carrie Grigsby, wife of the undersigned, hereby agrees to join in the execution of any deed described <sup>ing</sup> above. *real estate*

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> of  
Feb 1933

signed E. L. Grigsby.  
signed Carrie A. Grigsby

*property  
this real estate*

Dr. Louis A. Warren  
Ft. Wayne Ind.

Gentryville, Indiana,  
February 23, 1933,

Mr. Harry O. Garman,  
Indianapolis, Indiana,  
Dear Mr. Garman:

Replying to your letter of 22d, as I am also interested in the lives of the Lincoln's and the associations of the Lincoln's and Grigsby's while the Lincoln's lived in Spencer county, having been told by my greatuncle, Nathaniel, (Uncle Nattie) Grigsby, who was a chum of Abraham, and R. D. (Redmond) Grigsby, my grandfather, of all the important places and points of the courtship and marriage of Sarah Lincoln, A Abraham's sister, to Aaron Grigsby, of Abraham staying with his sister after her marriage to Grigsby until her death, and of friendly prizefights, of William Grigsby, who was a brother of Aaron, with Tom Sumner, of the nearby neighborhood. Abraham was the second for Grigsby and Sumner's brother was second for him; how they fought for almost half a day, when Sumner said "Billie, I have enough" and episodes of the Lincoln's and Grigsby's while they lived here. And having been in all the houses the Lincoln's lived in and the school that Abraham and his sister attended school in; and each year the tourists from all over the country and Boy Scouts of different cities = from Chicago, Appleton, Wis., cities from Pennsylvania, Ohio, and many other states and cities, asking me to show them the important places of the Lincoln's. I have therefore filed my application for the position as Custodian of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Park, that I may be of service to the general public in pointing out these places of interest, and would be pleased to point out these points of interest to you and any friends you may desire to bring or send. And I would thank you, Mr. Garman, for any assistance you and any of your friends might do for me in securing the position as Custodian when change is made. You will find my application on file with Mr. R. Earl Peters, Democratic State chairman. Knowing this land once belonged to my grandfather, and is wanted for Lincoln Park, for that reason only, we will agree to the change and accept the \$25.00 per acre instead of the \$9000 as a whole, but will reserve the old buildings and the right to remove them from the land. And also, the right to cultivate 50 acres this year, 1933.

Very Respectfully,  
E. L. Grigsby



Guthrieville Ind.

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 33

Mr Harry O German

Indianapolis Ind.

Dear Mr German

For past fewers I am  
going to let you have the  
Millstones that is all that is  
Left and not in the Meal  
Cossing & do not care to  
hear by the Meal Grinders for  
this summer as they are in  
good shape for grinding to  
some one that had the  
Power and could use them.  
but there is some 28 or 30  
pieces of the loose stones  
and any time you want  
them would be all right  
with me I can figure of  
buck's from here what  
they would deliver for

7 you so desire

Very respectfully  
E. L. Griggs

Gentryville Ind  
March 33

Mr Harry O. Garman

Indianapolis Ind

Dear Mr Garman

replying to your letter of  
relation to the Mill Stones and  
Large Grind Stone have been trying  
to locate truck have talked  
to H.T. Rhoades of Gentryville he  
said he would haul them  
very reasonable if he had  
occasion to come to Indianapolis  
but would not say what he  
would make big for just  
for this purpose there is  
so he said a truck line  
running from Indianapolis  
to Evansville Rhoades said  
the better the initials F. P. C  
truck line you might find  
out from your city

from what Garage they operate  
and get their prices or you  
might write J.T. Rhoades of  
Gentryville for his price,  
as I stated in previous letter  
there is some 28 or 30 of the  
Mill Stones and you may  
have the Large Grind Stone and  
the Mill Stones for fifteen  
dollars and if you desire to  
take them and let me  
know how many days before I  
could have them ready for  
loading and not cause truck  
but very little delay

Very Respectfully  
E. L. Grigsby

## LINCOLN HISTORY STORIES

### Lincoln Put Foot Down on Court Scheme

(Contributed by a friend in Ohio)

There is nothing so glaringly new about this attempted rape of the courts by the Roosevelt administration. Throughout the years there have arisen greedy politicians who to feather their own nests have tried to take cross cuts to save time.

Abraham Lincoln put his big massive foot down on such a scheme when he was a member of the Illinois legislature in 1841. There was an attempt then to "re-organize" the judiciary, and Lincoln was one of the first to attack the scheme. His chief reasons were that it would make the courts partisan and violate the principle of free government. But here is the story, from volume 2, page 72, of the Centenary Edition of Abraham Lincoln:

#### Against Reorganization of the Judiciary

Extract from a Protest in the Illinois Legislature, signed by A. Lincoln and others. February 26, 1841.

For the reason thus presented, and for others no less apparent, the undersigned can not assent to the passage of the bill, or permit it to become a law, without this evidence of their disapprobation; and they now protest against the reorganization of the judiciary, because—(1) It violates the great principles of free government by subjecting the judiciary to the legislature, (2) It is a fatal blow at the independence of the judges and the constitutional term of their office. (3) It is a measure not asked for, or wished for, by the people, (4) It will greatly increase the expense of our courts, or else greatly diminish their utility. (5) It will give our courts a political and partizan character, thereby impairing public confidence in their decisions. (6) It will impair our standing with other states and the world. (7) It is a party measure for party purposes, from which no practical good to the people can possibly arise, but which may be the source of immeasurable evils.

The undersigned are well aware that this protest will be altogether unavailing with the majority of this body. The blow has already fallen, and we are compelled to stand by, the mournful spectators of the ruin it will cause.

(Signed by thirty-five members, among whom was Abraham Lincoln.)

A correspondent, in Ohio wishes to know the name of the blacksmith at Gentryville during the Lincoln period. Who can supply the information, and where is it found?

monahan 12-22-1938  
It is found that we now have law on

3

HARRY O. GARMAN  
CONSULTING ENGINEER  
219 N. PENN. STREET  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

October 25, 1940

Dr. Louis A. Warren  
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

I had some correspondence with Eli Grisby, and in cleaning out my files I found these letters addressed to me. They may not be worth anything and if you do not want them please throw them in the waste basket.

Cordially yours,

*Harry O. Gorman*



October 30, 1940

Mr. Harry O. Garman  
219 N. Penn. St.  
Indianapolis, Indiana

My dear Mr. Garman:

It was very thoughtful of you indeed to forward the interesting papers relating to your correspondence with Eli Grishy.

We are pleased indeed to have these for our collection of manuscripts and they represent just the type of material we are always very anxious to acquire. Thanking you again for your interest in our Foundation, we are

Very truly yours,

LAW:ES

Director

*Abraham* . . . the Presidential signature of

# THE YOUNG GIANT

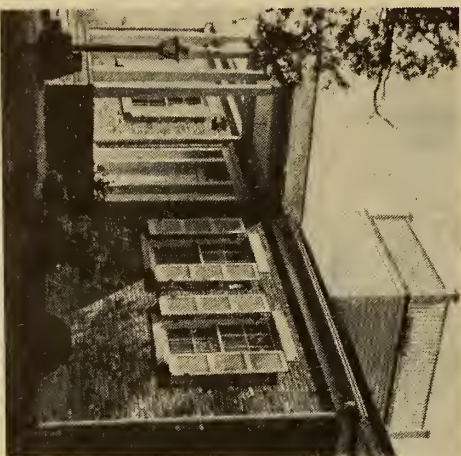
from Indiana

In 1816 Abraham became a child of the new State of Indiana, grew to be a Young Giant then left in 1830 for his destined place in history.

*There is a very close tie between the conception of Citizen-ship of Abe Lincoln and Chautauqua — each fostered the ideals and idea of developing the mind, body and especially the spirit.*

## Colonel William Jones House

1834



tradition dates the beginning of construction at 1834.

A community consisting of perhaps a dozen log cabins grew up around the store and was known as Jonesboro. William and Rachel reared five boys in the little village — James, William, Henry Clay, Winfield Scott and Charles. Two other children

## Chautauqua . . . Abe personified the idea of an American dream

CHAUTAUQUA — what a magnificent dream it was! In 1874 Lewis Miller, Akron, Ohio and John Hyle Vincent, editor and clergyman from Geleena, Ill., started the movement in the Allegheny foothills at Chautauqua Lake in southwestern New York.

From the very beginning it was a most successful venture, growing each year because of the ideals of the people who believed in it's appeal to all ages and creeds

Originally established by ministers and teachers from the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, dedicated to the purpose of being, not undenominational but rather, all denominational. From the first it was made catholic (universal) as to creed.

From the book by Lewis Miller we hear of the high ideals and policies which guided the destiny of CHAUTAUQUA to it's rich fulfillment. "My past experience brings the conviction that the great want of humanity is recognition."

"The men of factory and field NEEDED the association of the theorist and professions; The theorist and professions need the contact of the artisan and craftsmen. This thought has not in it equality of ability, or wealth, nor equality of social power but equality of consideration of rights and privileges. The national spirit, as it gathers strength and greatness, should be to come nearer to care more for the common citizen."

The transportation of the early 1900s did not allow for too many people to get into the big city to see the fine talent they read about in the papers, this need for inspiration, entertainment and happy summer activity was answered by CHAUTAUQUA. The big





East room, before restoration



East room, after restoration

Classic Revival embellishment. A large central hall is flanked by rooms with end chimneys, and a long cooking wing projects from the rear. The house has especially elegant woodwork in the east room; window jambs extend to the floor in pilaster fashion, cornices decorate the window and door lintels, and eleven-foot high cupboards, which still have original hardware, are built-in beside the fireplace.

Arietta Bullock's description, along with some foundation remnants, indicated the previous existence of a large pantry off the kitchen. Modern kitchen appliances and bathroom facilities are now hidden in the restoration of this old pantry, so that such present-day conveniences do not intrude upon the main part of the house.

Every attempt was made to preserve the 1834 design: no doors or windows were moved, no rooms divided. When woodwork was too decayed to use, new wood was carefully shaped to duplicate the old. All the

original doors survived except two. Original glass exists in many of the windows. The stairway to the observatory was rebuilt upon a pattern faintly visible on the walls; the shape of the bottom step was still outlined on the wood floor under layers of linoleum. The floors are poplar, as is all the wood in the house, and they were repaired where necessary with old poplar salvaged from a Warrick County house. Iron fixtures from the original cooking fireplace were discovered when the rear wing was restored, and these were replaced in the fireplace masonry.

Outside, some of the largest red cedars in Indiana shade the spacious front lawn, and remains of intersecting brick walks can be detected in the grass. Lilacs and fruit trees are scattered over the grounds. Deer, foxes and woodchucks are occasionally seen in the clearing around the house. In the woods, the springs which once sustained the homesites of Jonesboro still flow across the farm toward Little Pigeon Creek.



Photos in this brochure by Walter Nickamp.

Colonel William Jones House  
Old Boonville-Corydon Road  
Gentryville, Indiana 47537  
(812) 336-3961

Seven tenths of a mile west of Highway 231

# Colonel William Jones House

1834



# *Abe Lincoln* ... the Presidential signature of THE YOUNG GIANT from Indiana

In 1816 Abraham became a child of the new State of Indiana, grew to be a Young Giant then left in 1830 for his destined place in history.

There is a very close tie between the conception of Citizenship of Abe Lincoln and Chautauqua — each fostered the ideals and idea of developing the mind, body and especially the spirit.

## Colonel William Jones House

1834



William Jones

Colonel William Jones was born in Vincennes in 1800 and as a young man settled in Spencer County where he became a merchant, farmer, politician and soldier. He and his wife Rachel Oskins Jones first lived in a log house on the south side of the road which passed through their farm, and their store and post office stood alone on the opposite side of the road. When business prospered, they erected the present brick house next to the store. Oral



tradition dates the beginning of construction at 1834.

A community consisting of perhaps a dozen log cabins grew up around the store and was known as Jonesboro. William and Rachel reared five boys in the little village — James, William, Henry Clay, Winfield Scott and Charles. Two other children were killed in a tragic gunpowder explosion and became the subject of ghost stories which later circulated in the neighborhood.

Jones employed Abraham Lincoln as a helper in his store until Lincoln departed for Illinois in 1830. Both Jones and nearby merchant James Gentry are mentioned in Lincoln literature as influential employers of the young Lincoln. In 1844 Lincoln visited Jones while making campaign speeches for Henry Clay's presidential candidacy. This overnight visit is described in an 1865 manuscript in the William Herndon collection in the Library of Congress.

On May 12, 1975 the Jones property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

### Restoration

In 1976 the Colonel Jones house was purchased by William and Gayle Cook. It could not have stood much longer against the elements, as the soft brick walls, three bricks thick, were crumbling internally and could no longer support repairs. After much study, consultation and soul-searching, the decision was made to carefully number, dismantle and reassemble every part of the house. This was the only way the house could be saved. Pritchett Brothers Contractors of Springville, Indiana, began the painstaking restoration in June of 1976.

Colonel William Jones House  
Old Booneville-Corydon Road  
Gentryville, Indiana 47537  
(812) 336-3961

Seven tenths of a mile west of Highway 231



## Chautauqua . . . Abe personified the idea of an American dream

CHAUTAUQUA — what a magnificent dream it was! In 1874 Lewis Miller, Akron, Ohio and John Hyle Vincent, editor and clergyman from Helena, Ill., started the movement in the Allegheny foothills at Chautauqua Lake in southwestern New York.

From the very beginning it was a most successful venture, growing each year because of the ideals of the people who believed in it's appeal to all ages and creeds.

Originally established by ministers and teachers from the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, dedicated to the purpose of being, not undenominational but rather, all denominational. From the first it was made catholic (universal) as to creed.

From the book by Lewis Miller we hear of the high ideals and policies which guided the destiny of CHAUTAUQUA to it's rich fulfillment. "My past experience brings the conviction that the great want of humanity is recognition."

"The men of factory and field NEED the association of the theorist and professions; The theorist and professions need the contact of the artisan and craftsmen. This thought has not in it equality of ability, or wealth, nor equality of social power but equality of consideration of rights and privileges. The national spirit, as it gathers strength and greatness, should be to come nearer to care more for the common citizen."

The transportation of the early 1800s did not allow for too many people to get into the big city to see the fine talent they read about in the papers, this need for inspiration, entertainment and happy summer activity was answered by CHAUTAUQUA. The big tent was set up in a wide shady area, the wealthy and cultured people in the town assumed the financial support, a program of music, speakers, drama and singers were selected and the support from the townfolks usually assured a good return on the investment.

In Spencer County through the 1920s the eighth grade graduations were held at Chautauqua. There were classes of up to 300.

The speakers urged the development of the mind, body and spirit, many of the graduates went on to become ministers or teachers — CHAUTAUQUA WAS WORKING, it still is!

## Open House reception to aid boyhood drama

Saturday and Sunday, June  
7 & 8, 11 a.m. to dusk

The Open House reception and the Renaissance are given for the benefit of the DRAMA of Abe Lincoln's Boyhood — 1816-1830.



In this drama in the Lincoln Hills we hope to convey the essence of humanity that was Abraham Lincoln. His unflinching sense of humor, his friendly warmth toward his fellow man, his need to learn, his honesty, his frailties, his love for work, his compassion, all were woven into his character as he grew to be a man here in Spencer County, Indiana.

The serenity of his spirit is caught in the face carved on a mountain-top. Patient and welcoming, he silently greets those who enter the columned Memorial in our nation's capital city. Standing on a pedestal in Parliament Square in London proves him capable of being at home anywhere.

Here in these hills in a cabin home, a child of seven grew to be "the man of the ages."

Our purpose in this drama is to humbly accept and proudly acknowledge this and to keep a hero for the children. Voluntary contributions gratefully accepted.





# History of the Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana

The Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana was organized at Gentryville, Indiana in the home of Mrs. Aria Crews, Postmistress of Gentryville, in April, 1959.

The idea for the club was conceived in the mind of Mrs. Benson Woods, who is a Lincoln scholar. While a resident in Washington, D.C. she was for many years Executive Secretary of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Woods was assisted in organizing the Club by Mrs. Oscar Brizius of Newburgh, Indiana who was then President of the Indiana Federation of Women's Clubs.

The purpose of the Club is the threefold:

- (1) To search for truth regarding Abraham Lincoln.
- (2) To help preserve and extend the Lincoln heritage;
- (3) To work for community improvement in the area in which Lincoln grew to manhood.

The membership is open to all women who are genuinely interested in the purpose of the Club, and who are sponsored by a member of the Club.

Immediately, the Club was Federated in both the State and General Federation of Women's Clubs. This Club is the only Federated Club in Spencer County.

Programs are given at Club meetings directly relating to the purpose of emphasizing the local history of the Lincolns. These have been outstanding educational programs.

Some of the programs and projects:

An annual Lincoln Memorial Service in February in cooperation with the National Park Service.

A two-year project culminating in the passing of bills that made the area surrounding the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln a National Memorial. President John F. Kennedy signed the bill on February 19, 1962 and on July 10, 1962 The Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial was dedicated by The National Park Service and the Indiana Department of Conservation.

The Lincoln Library which is housed with the Memorial Library at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. Lincoln books contributed to the local high school. Also other books were contributed to area centers of education.

The current project is supporting the completion of an outdoor amphitheatre portraying the boyhood of Abraham Lincoln.

Non-profit Corporation Formed

With the three-fold purpose in mind in June of 1977, the members discussed and

conceived of an idea of an Outdoor Drama portraying the formative years in the life of Abraham Lincoln as lived in this area.

With this idea accepted, a committee was formed, and then a non-profit corporation organized with the title of: Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association, Inc.

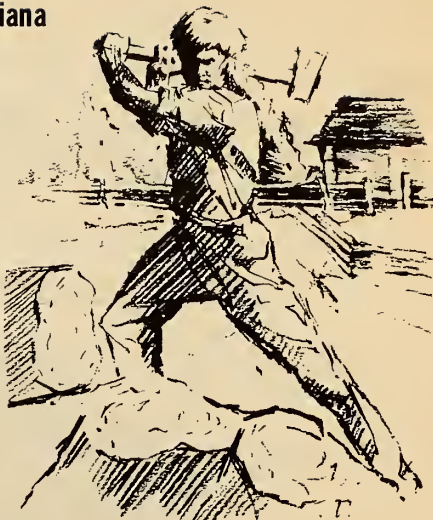
Mrs. Chas. (Iris) Ludwig, president

## Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association

In September of 1978, the By-Laws were adopted and a Board of Directors named. This organization was formed to promote and bring to reality the Lincoln Club dream of an Outdoor Drama depicting the important formative years that Abraham Lincoln lived in the Lincoln City area. The volunteer Board of Directors are a broad base of men and women from the surrounding areas. Chairman is Freda Schroeder, Lincoln Club member. Other Club members serving are: Iris Ludwig, president, La Rie Beach, Mary Conen, and Carrie M. Crews, secretary. From other areas are: Clarence Price, Dale attorney; Orville Martin, of Martin-Serrin Ins. of Rockport; Reed Bronner, Dale printer; Ralph Kennedy, Lamar farmer and insurance agent; Narl Conner, Dale, president of Conner Motors, Inc.; J. P. Chrisney, Santa Claus accountant; Ervin Caldemeyer, Pres. of Holland Dairy; Forrest Lincoln, direct descendant of the brother of Thomas Lincoln; Dale Helmerich, Mayor of Huntingburg; Hugh Thrasher, Tell City businessman; David Girtin, of Evansville, theatrical producer. Agreeing to serve as Honorary Board members are: Dennis Beach, Superintendent of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial; Wm. Koch, President of Santa Claus Land, Inc.; Dr. Wallace B. Graves, President of the University of Evansville; Fr. Gavin Barnes, of St. Meinrad Archabbey; Rev. Russell Dazey, of New Hope Baptist Church; Roy Fenn, retired furniture executive of Tell City; and Grace Riddle of Southwest Harbor, Maine, member of original Drama project committee.

Feasibility Study Completed

A feasibility appraisal and planning report for the Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association, Inc. was completed in November of 1979 by the Institute of



## LITTLE KNOWN BOYHOOD ADVENTURES OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Outdoor Drama at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Over four thousand dollars was contributed by area citizens interested in having the Lincoln boyhood years dramatized.

In October of 1979, Mark R. Sumner, Director of the Institute of Outdoor Drama, accompanied by Robert P. Hyatt, general manager of "The Lost Colony" in Manteo, N.C., and Billy Edd Wheeler, author of "Hatfields and McCoys" came to visit the area. They spent three days looking at the local facilities, the nearby sites of interest and talking to businessmen and bankers. Time was spent evaluating the report on the feasibility of the project.

Sumner was enthusiastic about the prospects. He said, "The Lincoln Boyhood Story ought to be told to national audiences, and Lincoln City is a beautiful

place for it to happen."

From this approval, steps have been taken to have authors submit plays to be read by the Board.

Resolution Adopted

The Indiana Federation of Clubwomen at their 1980 Annual Convention in Indianapolis, adopted the following resolution:

"That the Indiana Federation of Clubs recommend to the Indiana Legislature the initiation authorizing the proposed funds for its building, and FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Indiana Federation of Clubs and its membership give its support of the project to its completion.

Presented by Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana  
Freda Schroeder, chairman



Abe Helps His Father  
Clear the Trees

## Welcome to beautiful historic Lincoln Hills

Lincoln Hills Arts & Crafts Association was organized in 1965 in a four-county area of Crawford, Harrison, Perry, and Spencer Counties.

In Crawford County you will find two world famous caves — Marengo and Wyandotte, the Harrison-Crawford Forest, Wyandotte Recreation Area, water sports on the Ohio and Blue Rivers and Patoka Reservoir. The Crawford County Sorghum Festival occurs on the third weekend in October each year.

Harrison County offers Indiana's first state capitol, Haystack Little Theatre, Buffalo Trace Park at Palmyra, art glass production, and Squire Boone Caverns discovered in 1790 by Daniel Boone's brother. An information and sales booth on the lawn of the Old Capital from May to October in Corydon. Old Capital Inn on I-44 offers a motel and restaurant to travelers.

Perry County, settled by the Swiss has erected a metal sculpture of William Tell and son symbolizing this heritage. One may find water sports on the Ohio River, fishing at the Deer Creek Impoundment, Cammell's old cotton mill, the Christ of the Ohio, historic stone buildings, and many fine restaurants and motels. Perry

County offers the Dogwood Festival in Spring and the Schweizerfest in August annually.

Spencer County is proud that Abraham Lincoln spent his formative years in this area and offers the Lincoln National Memorial, the Lincoln Boyhood Historical Living Farm which are open the year around, the Lincoln State Park with camping and swimming facilities, and the Little Pigeon Creek Church where Nancy Hanks Lincoln is buried all at Lincoln City. St. Meinrad Archabbey, a Benedictine Monastery, is located at St. Meinrad, sometimes called the little Alps of Indiana. The Historical Restoration of the Col. William Jones House at Gentryville, where Lincoln worked as a young man, may be seen. Rockport offers the Lincoln Pioneer Village, the Lincoln Flatboat Landing and the Rockport Summer Theatre. Santa Claus Land, Country Corner, Holly Plaza and many shops, restaurants and motels invite the traveler.

The Spencer County Arts & Crafts Association offers two shows each year, the last weekend in April and the weekend before Thanksgiving in November.

# Lincoln Hills Arts and Crafts of Spencer County

We will accept gratefully any voluntary contribution for the support of **THE LINCOLN DRAMA**.

On June 7th and 8th from 11 a.m. to dusk the members of our Arts and Crafts unit will demonstrate at the Chautauqua and their work will be for sale.

Our well known authors will autograph their books.

## A THEME FOR THE YEARS

Each year a theme is chosen for the April exhibit. Printed programs are given to each visitor along with a frosty cup of Special Spencer County Sassafras tea, made by the members. Many visitors come back each year for "the spring tonic of the pioneers."

1966 — "A Clean Palette" Our first spring show. The uneven spots on the board were filled with crayon color by the Exceptional Childrens Classes in the Spencer County schools.

1967 — "Art in Four Phases" featuring Arts and Crafts — Literature from the first story book — Music under the singalong tree — Drama It's a Small World with the 4-H Junior Leaders leading the way as King, Queen, Prince and Princess. Costumes by the students in the Drama Dept. at St. Meinrad Abbey. Thanks to Father Gavin Barnes, artist, teacher, and drama coach at St. Jude's theatre.

1968 — "Arts and Flowers" An open flower show. A toddlers fashion show with all garments hand crafted by members. Dogwood blossoms everywhere as spring's contribution!

1969 — "Baskets Beautiful and Useful" We honored two fine weavers, Frank Marshall of Tasswell, In, and William Sturgeon of Cannelton, both master craftsmen in the art of basketry.

1970 — "Flight into Spring" Bird cages filled with green plants — The birds outside, winging free. Special guests from Crossville, Tennessee were "The Tennessee Fords" Carl and Rosa, who carved fine birds from wood at Washington D.C. and at Spencer County Show.

1971 — "Springtime at the Cabin Door" Reproducing the exhibit just as it was shown at the Chicago World Flower show in March. Jim Yellig, as the man who gets

the mail (Santa Claus) and Mary and Forest Lincoln attesting to the historical significance of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial were at Chicago and in the cabin at our show.

1972 — "The Five Basic Gifts" Leather, Metal, Wood, Fiber, Clay. All of them waiting for a hand, willing and creative, to fashion a thing of beauty or for practical use.

1973 "Creativity" Potters with a lump of clay turning it into a pitcher, a bowl or a mug. Ron Peake and Bob Pulley were the productive artists for the two days. It pleased our guests.

1974 — "The Salmagundi Show" Salmagundi - meaning a mixture, a medley, a tasty sausage. Ours was a mixture of the work of creative hands, happy hands. A medley of texture, line, beauty and color harmony. And a Salmagundi sausage sandwich, especially made by the Abbey Packing Plant. Many visitors asked us to have it again. Tasty it was.

1975 — "Bloom where you are Planted" Create beauty where ever you are. John Burton of Peppertine U. in Cal. "Never say you have no talent, your talent is like a coat hanging in a closet, you never know if it will fit until you try it on."

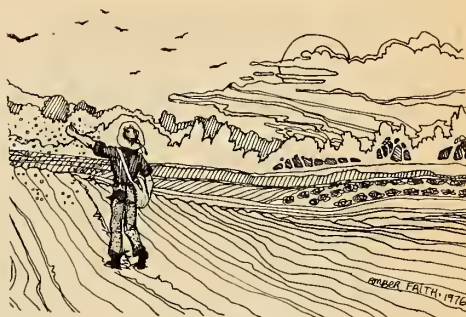
1976 — "Bi-centennial Quilt Show" We purchased rods and hangers and hung one hundred and four quilts all around the walls of the -H Youth and Community Convention Center. Paying tribute to the men who sowed the seed and the women who sewed the cloth through the two hundred years of our history. Amber Faith's artistry depicted the sowing of the seed and sewing of the cloth.

1977 — "Green Up Time" The avenue leading to the Sassafras Tea Garden by Mary and J. B. Rodgers was lined with the empty barrels and the poles on top reaching to the ceiling. With the macrame artists and the green thumb artists combined we hung our greens up high! Beautiful!

1978 — "Fields of Fashion" Gifts from the earth and plants.

1979 — "A Tisket A Tasket"

1980 — "Songs of Spring."



## Sowing the seed

### HISTORY Organized in 1965

1965 — Vivian Burns was president, served until her husband was transferred to another park. He was Superintendent of the Lincoln National Boyhood Memorial in Lincoln City, Indiana. Helen Kennedy finished her term from Sept. to Jan. 1966.

1966 — Brother Zachary De Bernardi, from St. Meinrad Archabbey served as president. Brother Zachary is a teacher of creative ceramics and metal sculpture.

1967 — Harry J. Girvin-President "Project Pegboards" Visionary business men donated the boards, each one was honored with an engraved nameplate on their own board. The wood craft classes in our county high schools built them. This was the year the Fall Show became a reality. Named by Nelda May "Holiday Harvest Sale", to be held each year the last weekend before Thanksgiving.

1968 — Brother Zachary was again elected to the office of President. An invitation from the Co-op Craft show at Washington D.C. came through Lorraine Nickols, County Extension Home-agent. Our crafts were sent and accepted to be exhibited in the Smithsonian Institution. A delegate was named to take the works and remain for the entire month of this October show. Mary Conen was the representative for our club.

1969 — Joyce Johnson-President. Another exhibit of Crafts in Washington D.C. Our delegate was invited back to serve as a member of the staff-EXPENSES PAID! Two years in a row for the works of our members, from the Lincoln Hills in Spencer County, Indiana. The needlecraft, weaving-rugs and wall hangings, basketry, creative ceramics, apple head carving, nut wreathed candlesticks all made the representative proud of our exhibit. People loved it. It was fun to teach the visitors from the White House how to carve an apple.

1970 — Elmer Pruess, President. This tireless worker was the first president of the Four County Show. He is an artist, taught school through his lifetime, and his "Chalk Talk" programs are most popular. "Flight Into Spring" was the theme of our show and we had as guest artists "The Tennessee Fords" from Crossville, Tennessee. Rosa and Carol Ford carved wood wrens, owls and dancing boys.

1971 — Mary Conen, President. Project. Cabin Sales Shop. Volunteer help by members, near Santa Claus Land, in a log cabin offered by Mr. Malcomb Koch. The president went to Chicago to the Bank of Lincolnwood, Illinois for an exhibit of our crafts, in a little "Mod" log cabin built and set up in the bank lobby. From this came an invitation to enter the Chicago World Flower and Garden Show in March 1971 in the McCormick Place on the lake. We made it! With support again from good friends our own members and the business

men who want others to know HERE WE ARE!

1972 — Jenny Barclay, President. Our Cabin Shop still going, screens, fans and radio all from our generous people made for more creature comfort. We were the hosts for our four county show in October.

1973 — Brother Kim Malloy, President. CREATIVITY the theme of the year. Two fine potters turned out their beautiful work all the time of the spring show.

1974 — Brother Kim reelected President. Adventure was the spirit of this year. THE SALMAGUNDI SHOW was our spring exhibit, the word means — mixture, medley AND a tasty sausage. The art work was a medley of beauty, the crafts a mixture of creativity in every media. The sausage was especially made for the hungry guests by the Abbey Packers. There were requests to have it again next year!

1975 — Elmer Pruess, President. This year we topped the sale of members works at our Holiday Harvest Sale. Folks remember the beauty and the fine quality of work and come to buy the hand crafted gifts.

1976 — Jenny Barclay, President. This dedicated lady served when an additional Four County Show is on the agenda of her work year. That and a Bicentennial Quilt Show filled her term, and she and Imogene Kenny opened their own craft and gift shop in Rockport, Ind. The Gentry Lake Quaint Shop was also opened this year by Frances, Nola and Barbara.

1977 — Mary Conen, President. Project YEARBOOK.

1978 — Mary Conen, President. FIELDS OF FASHION. During the year the constitution and bylaws were revised and the membership expanded. Work began to make our association a "Not For Profit Corporation."

1979 — William G. Rice, President. There is a great army of people who have served well and faithfully all through our years of creative progress. All the secretaries who keep such good notes, all the treasurers who handle the finances, all the vice presidents who were pinch hitters in time of need. To each of them — our love and appreciation.

## Our Land

Can a nation be built  
From a seed and a string  
Food cooked at the fireplace  
A spinner who sings  
Rejoicing and counting  
The blessings they own  
Warm clothing and children  
A place that is HOME  
How little it took  
When the nation was new  
To make people happy  
And loyal and true  
A seed for the earth  
That would become bread  
And wool from the sheep  
To make a warm thread.

Mary Conen

## • ART IS THE LANGUAGE of THE SPIRIT •



## Sewing the cloth

## Quilting is neighborly needlecraft



# This Man Abraham

This man Abraham, whose name we have given to our hills, grew up in this demanding, rough, often heartbreaking environment. From the time he was seven until his 21st birthday. He lived in Spencer Co. and mastered every challenge. He loved books and learned to read when young, his receptive mind retained the knowledge he gained, and his memory was remarkable. He grew in strength from hard labor. His sense of honor, his love for people, along with a sense of humor, made him a man of fine character. His were the rugged boots which blazed the trail from the cabin to Capitol Hill.

His Nation thought him worthy of a monument to his boyhood. The LINCOLN NATIONAL BOYHOOD MEMORIAL is located at Lincoln City in Spencer County, Indiana. His mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, is buried on the hill. His sister, Sarah Lincoln Grigsby, is buried in the Little Pigeon Church yard in the Lincoln State Park. The LIVING FARM is an inspiring place for both adults and children. In this replica cabin, the fourth and fifth grade children come to learn and work as the pioneers did. The round random patch quilt hanging in our exhibit was made by these children. The teachers and grandmothers helped to "finish off" the work—as was usually the case in our quilt-making history.

Abraham Lincoln was Olympic Champion quality long before they gave gold medals. He was neither a saint nor a sinner—just a man, fine and faulty, as all men are. His claim to greatness was simply that he met each hurdle and always did the very best he could. This is the reason he belongs to the ages.

From Samuel Lincoln, in Hingham, Massachusetts, in 1637 came three sons. Morticia was the son from whom the Forrest Lincoln family descended. They still live in Spencer County.

Forrest and his wife, Mary, have two sons, James and Robert, and a daughter, Frances Jean.

The character traits of Abe and his sixth cousin are most similar, and the facial features of the two men are striking. Children and adults alike note this, and, of course, Forrest is nicknamed "Abe", often called "Mr. President" and autographs almost as many programs as if he had the title.

All of this he accepts with kindly grace that seems inherent in folks with the name of Lincoln. Charming and gracious is his wife and they enjoy the reaction almost always encountered when they are introduced as Mr. Lincoln and his wife, Mary Lincoln.

Spencer County is proud of them.



Lincoln Boyhood Home

The southern Indiana farm where Abraham Lincoln grew from youth to manhood is now known as Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. A living farm area administered by the National Park Service, visitors enjoy demonstrations of daily tasks common to small farms of America's frontier.

## Activities at the Chautauqua

Dear Friends,

This is a special invitation to you.

Members of THE LINCOLN CLUB OF SOUTHERN INDIANA WILL CONDUCT THE HOUSE TOUR. We have prepared a fine program of activities and entertainment on the lawn of the JONES HOUSE with talent introduced from the platform in the CHAUTAUQUA TENT—just as it was in the late "elegant eighties" and through the "gay nineties". 200 or 300 children from Spencer County received their 8th grade diplomas each year at the CHAUTAUQUA.

### CREATIVE CRAFTS FOR SALE

Lincoln Hills Arts & Crafts Association folks will be present to demonstrate crafts of the past kept alive through 16 years and 36 shows. The food served will be Hoosier style fare—TOP QUALITY.

There will be activities for both adults and children. Contests will include the sports which were popular with boys and girls when Abraham lived in these hills.

### THE LINCOLN OLYMPICS

Distance jumps—Crowbar toss—(Pioneer Javelin)—Relay races. Winners; AWARD MEDALLIONS—Presented by Arad McCutchen.

### LINCOLN LOOK ALIKES

"THE YOUNG GIANTS" (in woodcutters dress - minus a beard) With an ax

and a book. Awards to be presented by Larry Schnuck.

### QUILT PATCH CONTEST

A timed challenge - who can sew a nine patch block with quality and speed. Awards presented by The County Top Quilters.

### FLOWER AND PLANT CONTEST

Most Beautiful Garden or Porch in Town for the Citizens of Gentryville. Judged by Spencer County Florists.

### DRILL—YOUTH CLUB CONTEST—

### BOYSCOUTS—4-H SONG

Leaders: Ralph Kennedy, Master Farmer - LaVerl Uhde, Scout Silver Award Winner. Free Throw..Basketball..the younger giants..and gal Awards presented by Spencer County Coaches.

Anyone wishing to enter any of the contests in advance may do so by calling (812) 362-8270 or (812) 362-8446 or (812) 347-3997. A card with your name and contest will be ready for you at the desk on June 7th and June 8th. This card will be acceptable for either or both days. Entrants may only win once in each contest. There is no charge for this service.

We look forward to having a happy day with you!

There is no charge for admission. Only voluntary contributions for the benefit of "The Lincoln Boyhood Drama."

## Lincoln



Unlearned in the cant and quip of Schools;

Uncouth, if only city ways refine;

Ungodly, if 'tis creeds that make divine;

In station poor, as judged by human rules;

And yet a giant towering o'er them all;

Clean, strong in mind, just, merciful, sublime;

The noblest product of the age and time;

Invoked of God in answer to men's call.

O simple world, and will you ever learn,

Schools can but guide, they cannot mind create;

'Neath roughest task the choicest treasures wait;

In meaneast forms we priceless gems discern;

Nor Time, nor age, condition, rank, or birth,

Can hide the truly noble of the earth.

—W. Hazelton

February 12, 1912

## List of Talent

OUR SALUTE! To all the boys and girls who are supporting

The Open House at Gentryville, Ind.

The young ladies and YOUNG GIANTS are from all denominations—"ecumenical unity"—as promoted by CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDERS IN 1874

### THE TALENT IN THE TENT

Opening Sat., 12:30—Presentation of the colors..... BOYSCOUTS

Opening Sun. 12:30—The Pledge in song..... 4-H Members

### CHAUTAUQUA CIRCUIT COMPANY

Evansville Reitz High School—MIME GROUP..... Both Days

Early form of group Dance—THE GROUSE BOYS..... Both Days

From Elaine's Classes—TODAY'S TERPSICHORE..... Sunday

Culture from the Kitchen—CARRY'E'S BAND..... Sunday

Pioneer Polka—DANCING DOTTY..... Sunday

Music Master, St. Meinrad—BROTHER TOBIAS..... Both Days

Sounds of Renaissance—RECORDER ARTISTS..... Both Days

Evansville Theatre—JIM JACKSON..... Dramatic Interpretations

Closing—Saturday, 4:30..... Vespers..... Sacred Music

Message—Father Gavin Barnes, O.S.B. St. Meinrad Archabbey

Teacher, playwright, Drama Director.

Closing—Sunday, 4:30..... Vespers..... Sacred Music

Message—David Buttrick—Speaker at the Chautauqua Lake, New York program.

## Frontiers

Frontiers have faded westward with the sun;

Beneath a century's dust, the pioneers

Sleep quietly; while Lincoln's Boyhood years

Forgotten fall into oblivion.

Ours be the task to prove his heritage!

To shift the sands of Legend for the gold

Of truth; to recreate the culture old

Of Indiana, here on Nature's stage.

Who knows what mark was left by sorrow's pain

When Lincoln knelt beside his Mother's grave?

Or when his youthful eyes first saw a slave

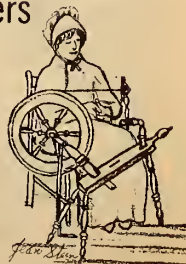
What indignation fired his noble brain?

The child foretells the man

Come, banish toil,

And see what visions

Called Abe from the soil.



TO ALL THE FOLKS AT GENTRYVILLE OUR DEEP APPRECIATION.

## Colonel William Jones House

### History

Colonel William Jones was born in Vincennes in 1800 and as a young man settled in Spencer County where he became a merchant, farmer, politician and soldier. He and his wife Rachel Oskins Jones first lived in a log house on the south side of the road which passed through their farm, and their store and post office stood alone on the opposite side of the road. When business prospered, they erected the present brick house next to the store. Oral tradition dates the beginning of construction at 1834.

A community consisting of perhaps a dozen log cabins grew up around the store and was known as Jonesboro. William and Rachel reared five boys in the little village—James, William, Henry Clay, Winfield Scott and Charles. Two other children were killed in a tragic gunpowder explosion and became the subject of ghost stories which later circulated in the neighborhood.

Jones employed Abraham Lincoln as a helper in his store until Lincoln departed for Illinois in 1830. Both Jones and nearby merchant James Gentry are mentioned in Lincoln literature as influential employers of the young Lincoln. In 1844 Lincoln visited Jones while making campaign speeches for Henry Clay's presidential candidacy. This overnight visit is described in an 1865 manuscript in the William Herndon collection in the Library of Congress.

From 1838 to 1841 Jones served as a Whig representative in the Indiana State Legislature. He was a lieutenant colonel in the Union Army, 53rd Regiment of



Before restoration



William Jones

Indiana Volunteers, until his death in the Battle of Atlanta on July 22, 1864. He is buried in Marietta National Cemetery in Georgia.

Sometime in the 1850's Colonel Jones and his family moved their business and residence one-half mile east to James Gentry's settlement, Gentryville, which had surpassed Jonesboro in importance. The Jones house then had a succession of owners until 1887 when it was purchased by George and Arietta Seward Bullock, whose heirs owned it until restoration began in 1976. All the log buildings which made up the rest of Jonesboro gradually disappeared, and the Jones house was surrounded by a hundred acres of forest.

Arietta Bullock's written history of Jonesboro, based upon her impressions as a young wife in 1887, includes a description of the Jones house and farm and was invaluable during restoration.

On May 12, 1975, the Jones property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

### Restoration

In 1976 the Colonel Jones house was purchased by William and Gayle Cook. It could not have stood much longer against the elements, as the soft brick walls, three bricks thick, were crumbling internally and could no longer support repairs. After much study, consultation and soul-searching, the decision was

made to carefully number, dismantle and reassemble every part of the house. This was the only way the house could be saved. Pritchett Brothers Contractors of Springville, Indiana, began the painstaking restoration in June of 1976.

The building was in dilapidated condition—plaster was falling down, floors were sagging, woodwork was rotted, windows were broken. One bright spot existed: except for an alteration to the second story, the house retained nearly its original design throughout, making accurate restoration possible. It had never been modernized or remodeled; not even plumbing had been added. The Bullock heirs had wisely prohibited any changes, hoping that someday restoration could take place and the original design would be intact for reference. Before any work was done, therefore, details of the house were photographed, measured and drawn on blueprints so that every feature could be faithfully preserved.

The one major alteration, made about 1910, was the removal of the second-story observatory. This tower room, surmounted by a scuttle hole and captain's walk, was a source of continual water leakage and was razed and roofed over by George Bullock. Its restoration design is based upon Mrs. Bullock's written description, clues left in attic construction, and recollections of long-time area residents. The observatory is an unusual feature on a Federal house.

The rest of the house is of typical Federal design with





Frank Jones, of Gentryville, Ind., and Edward Jones, of Gillespie, were morning guests. Mr. Jones, of Gentryville, figures so intensively in Lincoln history that he was asked if he was a descendant. "Grandson is all," was the reply. He was shown a picture of his grandfather and also the Jones' store at Gentryville. This required him to visit the garage. Mr. Jones said it was worth a trip to him from Indiana to see those items in the collection. It will be remembered by Lincoln students that when Lincoln left Indiana for Illinois he secured from William Jones a pack of goods. Jones was a soldier in the Civil war and his grandson has his jeweled sword. Mr. Jones represented Spencer county, Indiana, in the legislature from 1838 to 1847. Mr. Jones told some of those present that this was the greatest place on earth.

# Fixing Delicate Watch, Farm Machinery, Gentryville Blacksmith Skilled at Either

Gentryville, Ind., Oct. 26. — Gravel spurted from beneath the tires as the heavy car swerved to a stop in front of a tired-looking building in Gentryville.

A well-dressed man stepped out, glanced at the old wagon wheels, buggy parts, a partially completed auto trailer in front of the building, and then entered.

He sniffed at the smoke that filled the building from the glowing forge in the corner. His eyes lighted for a moment as the smith poked the small fire into a shower of sparks.

Then the smith came forward. "You Frank Sutton?" he asked. When Mr. Sutton admitted the fact, he continued:

"I'm from Harrisburg, Ill. Drove over here to see you. My watch," he said, pulling from a vest pocket an expensive - looking timepiece, "has gone haywire. Always wanted to have it fixed in a blacksmith shop, so here I am. Can you do it?" he asked a little doubtfully.

"Sure," said Sutton. "But you've got to wait a minute while I wash

my hands. Been working on some threshing machine parts."

He smiled and added, "And I don't think threshing machines and watches go together, do you?"

## Scattered Delicate Parts.

The Illinois man watched Sutton's every movement as the blacksmith "dove" into the watch, scattering delicate parts right and left on the tool bench.

Within 20 minutes or so he pressed the assembled watch works back into the case and handed it to the Illinois man.

"How much?" the latter inquired, holding the watch to his ear and listening to its ticking. Then when Sutton named the figure, he shouted:

"Add another dollar to that. It was worth that much just to see you fix it." He chuckled happily, "A blacksmith jeweler. . ."

That isn't such an unusual story, at least it isn't unusual in Sutton's life. For the Gentryville blacksmith—Francis Marion Sutton—is known all over the tri-state. Yes, and farther than that.

He has been a smith now for nearly 60 years—started out when

he was 15 or 16 and stuck right with the job. He's nearing 73 now.

His grandfather before him, Zach Sutton, who came to the United States from England along with two other brothers in 1812, was a blacksmith.

And so was Frank Sutton's father, though he did far more farming than blacksmithing.

## Asked to Learn Trade.

An injury kept young Frank Sutton from steady schooling. For a time he thought he was going to be a cripple. So when Frank finally walked again he vetoed his father's suggestion of additional schooling.

"I want to learn a trade," he said.

So Frank Sutton got himself a job in a Medora (his home town) blacksmith shop which handled a little of everything.

As he tells the story, the owners of the smithy simply handed him the key to the place.

"And that doesn't mean they gave me the shop," he said. "It meant I opened the shop at 4 o'clock in the morning and closed it at night. The closing hour? We often kept going until 10 p.m."

"I worked 15 and 16 hours many a day. And felt a lot fresher the next morning than a lot of these present day schoolkids who run around until the wee hours of the night."

"In fact, up to the time I was 65 I can't recall having ever been really fagged out."

## Traveled About State.

From Medora Sutton went to Seymour, then Columbus, Scottsburg, Glasgow, Ky. (he sold tobacco there for a time), and finally 30 years ago Gentryville.

It was at Seymour he learned what he calls the "silversmith trade"—jewelry and watch repairing. He had been told it would help him in the Columbus machine shops and so he learned everything his "teacher," Tom Young, could teach him.

Young traveled a lot and Sutton often was left in charge of the shop for weeks at a time. He attained his present proficiency with workings of watches at the expense of tinkering with the time equipment of Young's customers.

Today Sutton is regarded in the tri-state as an expert in his line—a line that even he admits is slowly passing away.

"I can't get a boy in here to learn the trade," he says. "They won't take the time and they don't like the hard work."

"Still there's money to be made in blacksmithing, for good blacksmiths—always will be."

Sutton got his training the hard way. Got it in the day when one couldn't go to a hardware store and buy any type of nail or bolt that was needed; couldn't order the correct sized steel needed for this and that job.

It was a case of forging things out to fit and tempering them to suit the purpose. That way Sutton picked up tricks of the trade that aren't called for today.

## Turned Out Oxen Shoes.

For example, in his early days he turned out hundreds and hundreds of oxen shoes.

"Maybe you didn't know they used to shoe work oxen," he said.

"They did. It was a double shoe with four 'corks' for oxen have split hoofs."

"And an ox is tougher to shoe than a horse. You have to switch the ends to watch."

"A horse, as you know," he continued, "kicks best from the back end. But oxen are just the reverse. Watch out for their front hoofs."

"They really pack dynamite. I had one knock me clear across the shop over the top of a pair of buggy wheels."

"Once I spent three whole weeks doing nothing but shoe yokes of oxen. That was up in Zelma, where the grade for the old E. & R. railroad was being cut."

With all this rougher, heavier work Sutton hasn't forgotten his craftsmanship with fine metals and polished woods.

A few years ago a man from Texas found his way to Sutton's shop.

"He had an old Kentucky rifle with him," Sutton recalls.

"It was a wreck. Once it was a beautiful gun. It had had silver inlays, a host of them. But someone had pried them out, probably sold them for the metal."

## Stock Broken in Two.

"The stock was broken in two places, the triggers and trigger guards were gone. In fact, there wasn't much to the gun."

"The man told me he had heard I might be able to fix it. I did, but I was darn sick of the job before I finished."

"But I had the satisfaction of seeing the man's eyes pop open with wonder when I handed it back to him months later and heard his comment, 'Man, alive, you didn't do that here in a blacksmith shop, did you?'"

Once Bert Davidson of Gentryville cashed in on Sutton's ability to fix anything that came to his shop. Davidson wanted a concrete mixer. He had located one in Boonville, priced right for his pocketbook. But the engine wouldn't run. Boonville owners said they had taken the mixer to every garage they knew of and still couldn't get the engine to work.

But Davidson, thinking of the small blacksmith shop in his home town and what its smith could do, bought the jinxed machine.

Two days later, he says, Sutton had the engine running. And it still is running.

## Uses Old Tools.

It isn't modern equipment that gives Sutton his knack of handling metal. For in his shop you can find tools that date back to his grandfather's day.

There's his "sash saw"—a thin-bladed saw which is mounted in something that looks like a window frame.

It works on the principal of a jig-saw. Sutton's grandfather used to rip out the segments of a wagon wheel rim with a saw like that. But that was in a day when wagon rims were made in six and seven pieces—handmade instead of being bought from the nearest supply house.

Today Sutton uses his sash saw principally to cut gun stocks.

## **BUILDING PLANS FOR LINCOLN SHRINE NEAR GENTRYVILLE**

The effort to enlarge the acreage of Lincoln park, near Gentryville, fathered by the Boonville Kiwanis club, is bearing fruit. Some additional acreage has already been purchased by the state, and this will be used as a parking space for automobiles in which people come to pay a tribute to the memory of the mother of Lincoln.

A movement has also been started to erect a monument to Lincoln, whose earlier days were spent in the environment of this beautiful park, as a mark of respect and devotion the young man little dreamed of when he wandered through the woods, chopped down trees, and did the chores of a farm boy.

A monument to the memory of Lincoln at this hallowed spot should be a state matter. The history of Indiana has been enlarged and beautified as well as enriched by the life of the martyr president because he lived for a time in Southern Indiana. It is meet and proper that such a monument should be erected within the space of his activities in this state.

Biographers have been busy with the life of Lincoln for many years. They have gone into detail through research in the preparation of these biographies. And with all of that there is so much that has been missed in the simplicity of the great life that further research is being made continuously.

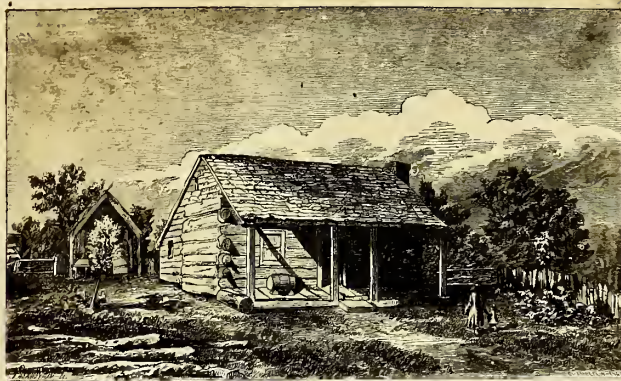
A marble shaft in the Indiana Lincoln park near that of the great woman who gave him life would mark an epoch in the fine spirit of Indiana that would not only indicate at this late day the high esteem in which Lincoln was held, but, too, would be a tribute to the men of Indiana who fought to preserve the Union when Lincoln called them to arms.

The Southwestern Indiana Historical association is engaged in research work of the life of Lincoln in Indiana. This large body might add to its record of achievement the work of carrying forward the movement for a Lincoln monument as suggested in other quarters.

---



Two markers were placed and dedicated Saturday on the farm of George Bullock, west of this place. Rev. Lewis Fleenor, of Evansville, a former pastor of Old Pigeon Church, and Rev. Harvey O. Chastain, present pastor, assisted in the dedication services. Dr. B. C. Bean, of Chicago, president and founder of the Abraham Lincoln Business Centenary, presided at the ceremony. One marker was placed on the site of the Jones store where the youth Lincoln clerked and one at the point where just 100 years ago the family started for Illinois, and Lincoln made a small sale of goods to Dr. Gentry from the stock they had laid in to sell on their journey.—Gentryville item.



HOUSE NEAR GENTYVILLE, INDIANA.  
The Home of Lincoln for thirteen years, and where his Mother died.

Barrett 4.8

